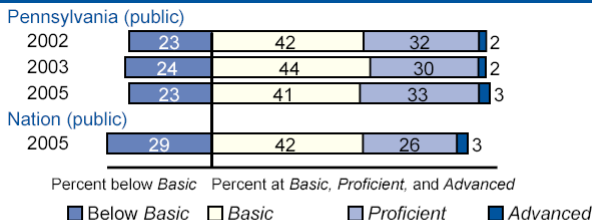


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in three content areas: reading for literary experience, to gain information, and to perform a task. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

Overall Reading Results for Pennsylvania

- In 2005, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in Pennsylvania was 267. This was not significantly different from¹ their average score in 2003 (264), and was not significantly different from their average score in 2002 (265).
- Pennsylvania's average score (267) in 2005 was higher than that of the Nation's public schools (260).
- Of the 52 states and other jurisdictions² that participated in the 2005 eighth-grade assessment, students' average scale scores in Pennsylvania were higher than those in 24 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 24 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 3 jurisdictions.
- The percentage of students in Pennsylvania who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 36 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (32 percent), and was not significantly different from that in 2002 (35 percent).
- The percentage of students in Pennsylvania who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 77 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (76 percent), and was not significantly different from that in 2002 (77 percent).

Student Percentage at NAEP Achievement Levels



NOTE: The NAEP reading achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: Below *Basic*, 242 or lower; *Basic*, 243–280; *Proficient*, 281–322; *Advanced*, 323 or above.

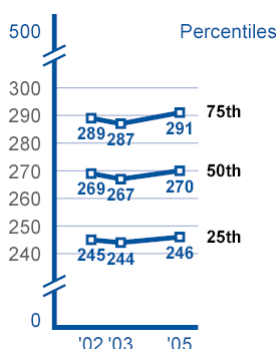
Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Pennsylvania

Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below Basic	Percent of students at or above Basic	Percent of students at or above Proficient	Percent Advanced
Male	50	262	27	73	31	2
Female	50	271	19	81	41	4
White	78	273 ↑	16	84	41	4 ↑
Black	15	239	52	48	12	1
Hispanic	5	246	45	55	17	2
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	275	18	82	47	7
American Indian/Alaska Native	#	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	31	247	43	57	16	1
Not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	68	276 ↑	13	87	46 ↑	5

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2005, male students in Pennsylvania had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 9 points. In 2002, the average score for male students was lower than that of female students by 5 points.
- In 2005, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 34 points. In 2002, the average score for Black students was lower than that of White students by 35 points.
- In 2005, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 27 points. Data are not reported for Hispanic students in 2002, because reporting standards were not met. Therefore, the performance gap data are not reported.
- In 2005, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, an indicator of poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 30 points. In 2002, the average score for students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch was lower than the score of those not eligible by 28 points.
- In 2005, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 45 points. In 2002, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 44 points.

Reading Scale Scores at Selected Percentiles



Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP reading scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels of the distribution performed.

The estimate rounds to zero.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

* Significantly different from 2005.

↑ Significantly higher than 2003. ↓ Significantly lower than 2003.

¹ Comparisons (higher/lower/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Performance comparisons may be affected by differences in exclusion rates across years for students with disabilities (4% nationally in 2005) and English language learners (1% nationally in 2005) in the NAEP samples. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages.

² "Other Jurisdictions" refers to the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity schools.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding and because the "Information not available" category for free/reduced-price lunch and the "Unclassified" category for race/ethnicity are not displayed. Visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/> for additional results and detailed information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), selected years, 2002–2005 Reading Assessments.